



Cancer Resource Centre

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DOCTORS, HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS HOOP IT UP, RAISING FUNDING, AWARENESS FOR THE CANCER RESOURCE CENTRE

MUNSTER – Community Healthcare System physicians and professionals took to the court – the basketball court that is – on Friday, April 10 to hoop up some fun and raise more than \$7,000 for the Cancer Resource Centre at the same time.

The charity basketball game at Munster High School brought together 41 cardiologists, urologists, oncologists, anesthesiologists, neurologists and other healthcare professionals who shed their scrubs, donned gym shoes and joined a team all for a good cause. Half-time entertainment included a playoff between two Community Healthcare System families, the Changs and the Siureks - who had both previously appeared on *Family Feud*, the syndicated television game show. IT Business Analyst Dan Shih led the committee consisting of the Cancer Resource Centre's Tony Andello and CFNI Marketing's Tina Campbell and a host of other healthcare system volunteers to make this first-time event a success.

Oncologist Mohamed Farhat, MD, on staff at Community Hospital in Munster, St. Catherine Hospital in East Chicago and St. Mary Medical Center in Hobart said that the event serves as an opportunity to bring cancer awareness to the forefront.

"Early in my medical school training, my uncle, arguably the nicest man I ever met was diagnosed with leukemia. Two weeks after his diagnosis he died leaving three children and his wife behind," Farhat explained. "That event had a dramatic impact on my life. Ever since then, I dedicated my life to cancer patients. It has become my passion and my raison d'être. This is such a wonderful event to celebrate our cancer patients' lives and to remember the ones who will stay forever in our hearts."

Proceeds from the basketball game benefit the Cancer Resource Centre in Munster. The Cancer Resource Centre at 926 Ridge Road helps patients and their families affected by cancer get the support, education, and encouragement they need to cope and heal emotionally and spiritually. All programming at the Centre is free, and includes a wide-variety of support groups, mind-body classes, lectures, and also a resource room filled with books, videos and Internet access.

The Centre is a program of the Community Cancer Research Foundation. The foundation works to reduce cancer morbidity and mortality in the region through research and by supporting and advancing cancer detection, diagnosis, treatment, education and prevention efforts through the hospitals of Community Healthcare System.

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President of the Community Cancer Research Foundation Board of Directors Don Fesko explained that support from residents and the business community is vital to the Cancer Resource Centre's mission.

"It is because of unselfish donations from caring community members, including our doctors, healthcare professionals and our business sponsors from this event that the Centre is able to continue on with its important work of offering patients knowledge, support, comfort and hope until a cure - for all cancers - is found," Fesko said. "We are very grateful for their generous contributions."

For more information about the Cancer Resource Centre, visit www.cancerresourcecentre.com or call 219-836-3349.

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Photo Caption:

(left to right) IT Business Analyst Daniel Shih, Oncologist Neel Shah, MD; Nurse Practitioner Ryan Hollis, Respiratory Therapist Dustin Gogal, Respiratory Therapist Ricardo Viera and Cardiovascular Nurse Joey Luka shed their scrubs, donned some gym shoes and played in the Hoop Dreams for a Cure basketball tournament with proceeds benefiting the Cancer Resource Centre in Munster.